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## **NJMC Announces Downtown Revitalization Grant Program for District Municipalities**

**LYNDHURST, N.J.** – The Board of the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission today announced details about a \$2 million grant program that will assist Meadowlands District municipalities in enhancing and maintaining their downtown business districts. The NJMC will begin accepting grant applications on May 1.

“The Downtown Revitalization Grant Program is a wonderful opportunity for Meadowlands municipalities to grow their business districts at no cost to taxpayers,” said Joseph Doria, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and Chairman of the NJMC. “A vibrant downtown is vitally important because it contributes to a municipality’s character and identity, is a source of pride and helps keep taxes low.”

The grants will be awarded on a competitive basis and may be used for a number of projects, including facade and signage improvements, lighting and technology upgrades, street furnishings, sidewalks and curbing, historic preservation, landscaping, marketing and advertising, and Web site creation and enhancement. The initial round of funding is \$500,000

The grants came out of the 2004 Hearing Officers’ Report and Recommendations on the Proposed Meadowlands Xanadu Redevelopment Project and are funded by Xanadu.

“We fought very hard to ensure that local towns would be provided with the resources they need to sustain and further develop their downtown business districts,” said NJMC Executive Director Robert Ceberio, who served on the Hearing Officers’ Committee. “We are pleased to be able to provide this funding.”

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